

THE *record*

THE CITY OF WYOMING, MICHIGAN NEWSLETTER

November 2011

Wyoming Gives Back to Benefit Toys for Tots

Taking place at Roger's Plaza on Dec. 1 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., "Wyoming Gives Back" is a festive way to kick-off the holidays and to give back to area families through the Toys for Tots program.

The City of Wyoming and the 28th Street business community invite families to enjoy an evening of music, food, raffle prizes and free photos with Santa. Music will be provided by the Salvation Army Brass Band as well as local school choirs. Holiday favorite, Pedro the monkey will also be in attendance.

"Wyoming Gives Back" is a fun way for 28th Street businesses to say thank you to the community. Residents are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy donation and will receive a raffle ticket for each toy donated, for a chance to win one of three large prize drawings.

"We wanted to create a fun, festive event that would bring our community and downtown businesses together to celebrate the holiday season and also to

benefit a great cause," Barb VanDuren, DDA director, said. "We hope attendees bring a toy donation for Toys for Tots.

"28th Street is filled with wonderful, committed businesses that want to see Wyoming prosper and are eager to engage with community members. Participating businesses were excited to be involved. We expect this will be a successful event."

Several local businesses are participating, including: Car City Supercenter, Check N' Go, Edward Jones, H&R Blcok, Lenger Travel Center, Marge's Donut Den, Marshall Music, Park Center Lanes, Sprint, Triple J's and Valvoline Instant Oil Change. The City of Wyoming Fire and Police Departments will also have tables at the event and the Police Department will have a police cruiser inside the mall for kids to tour.

Mayor Jack Poll and members of the Wyoming City Council will also attend "Wyoming Gives Back."

DOCK Ministries Opens Community Center

In 1989, Wayne Ondersma, director and pastor of student ministries, imagined creating a community center within the neighborhood that would be easily accessible to students after school. In Oct. of this year, Ondersma's dream was realized when DOCK Ministries opened the doors to their new community center.

Located at 4669 S. Division, the community center is directly across the street from Kellogsville Middle School and a few blocks from the district's high school. Students in sixth through twelfth grades can come to the center after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. to socialize, work on homework and play games.

"Three o'clock is the biggest hour for crime amongst junior high kids," Ondersma said. He hopes that the community center will help kids who might be returning to an empty house find something productive and fun to do in the hours between school and when their parents return from work.

The community center boasts 13,800 sq. ft., with 7,500 sq. ft. dedicated to the student drop in center. Part of Ondersma's vision is that organizations interested in partnering with the center will rent space in the building and, or use space for workshops or other activities.

The community center also has a unique feature that is worth bragging about, a 16 ft. long mural that was created through the efforts of more than 100 students. A 12-member student team helped develop the mural concept with local artists and then students had the opportunity to participate in the actual painting.

Ondersma encourages community members to visit the center and see the great work being done in Wyoming.

MAYOR'S

Message

Time to be thankful

What a great time of the year to pause and be thankful for the great community we live in. We have so many positive things happening in Wyoming. This year we have seen many businesses expand as well as new businesses join our city, several companies are adding jobs and the many construction projects show us that Wyoming is alive and well.

To show our thanks, please join me on Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. in Rogers Plaza as we celebrate a new holiday event, "Wyoming Gives

Back," with businesses in Wyoming. We will gather together to celebrate and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies and listen to holiday music from local school choirs. Even Santa will be there! The event is a benefit for Toys for Tots so I encourage you to bring a toy donation.

See you there!
Mayor Jack Poll

LIBRARY NEWS ADULT BOOK CLUB - We have a friendly, informal discussion on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. November's title is *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder. **PROGRAMS FOR TODDLERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN** – A variety of stories, rhymes, music and movement activities are available for young children and their caretakers. The programs run to the end of November. **NINTENDO WII** – Show off your Wii skills or learn some new Wii tricks with friends. For teens, grades 6 – 12. Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. For further details about any of our programs, stop in the library to pick up a program guide, check out our web page at www.kdl.org or call us at (616) 784-2007!

VETERANS DAY In honor of Veterans Day on Nov. 11, there will be a ceremony that evening at Veteran's Memorial Garden, 2300 DeHoop Ave. SW, beginning at 6 p.m. Fire Department Chaplain Kenneth McGee will deliver the invocation and benediction.

SIDEWALK SNOW PLOWING The Public Works Department would like to remind residents of the following: do not pile snow on sidewalks and in the parkway area between the street and sidewalk; do not plow snow onto someone else's property (snow must be kept on your own property); do not park vehicles over sidewalk; do not plow snow across street; do not place garbage cans on sidewalk. Also, prior to winter, the sidewalk snowplow contractor will trim trees as necessary, but residents are also encouraged to trim trees hanging over sidewalks to help keep sidewalk plowers safe.

Enhanced Election Technology for Nov. 8

The Nov. 8, 2011 election will see an increase in use of the Electronic Poll Book. The EPB does not count votes, but it does allow election inspectors to review and process voter information more efficiently. The EPB uses a laptop computer located within the polling location to provide lists of registered voters, track ballot numbers and create the poll list of all participating voters.

During the Aug. 2 election, four precincts utilized the new EPB system. Since August, more election inspectors have been trained to use the EPB, which will be used more widely during the Nov. 8 election, and by May 2012 all precincts in the City will be using the computers for elections.

Voters who provide a Michigan driver's license to satisfy the picture ID requirement will have their license read by a magnetic strip reader to quickly and accurately locate the correct voter record and assign a ballot.

Three city council members are running for re-election on Nov. 8, 2011. All are running unopposed.

From the City Manager's Blog

Last month, I attended the Michigan Municipal League annual conference in Grand Rapids with several Wyoming City Council Members and more than 500 local elected officials from around the state. During the conference we had the opportunity to hear Governor Snyder speak and share his message of "relentless positive action." I thought this message was appropriate and right on, and I want to remind you of some recent City of Wyoming achievements that we can be proud of:

1. The last 15 months have been some of the most productive for adding jobs.
2. Our "Turn on 28th Street" redevelopment plan is being celebrated by planning experts as a model of planning processes and citizen engagement.
3. Our work on the redevelopment of the GM site is being recognized as one of the economic development deals of the last year.
4. We just enjoyed our 8th Annual Pumpkin Path event, which saw over 7,000 participants at Lamar Park.

To read more visit, www.wyomingmi.gov.

Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department	530-7250
Public Works.....	530-7260
Utilities	261-3550
Planning & Community	
Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	647-3980

Meetings

City Council Meeting | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

City Council Work Sessions | on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Planning Commissions Meetings | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Zoning Board Of Appeals | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Parks & Recreation Commission | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conf. room.

Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,
Councilmember-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Councilmember-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Councilmember-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Councilmember

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Councilmember

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Councilmember